

Message Text

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PAGE 01 SANTIA 01534 071739Z
ACTION ARA-14

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01
INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 SP-02 SS-15
USIA-06 EB-08 AID-05 /088 W
-----006355 072159Z /66

R 071349Z MAR 78
FM AMEMBASSY SANTIAGO
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8365
INFO AMEMBASSY BUENOS AIRES
AMEMBASSY LONDON

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EO 11652: NA
TAGS: PBOR, PGOV, AR, CI
SUBJ: BEAGLE TALKS - START OF PHASE ONE

REF: SANTIAGO 1166

1. ARGENTINE AND CHILEAN NEGOTIATORS MET IN SANTIAGO MARCH 1-3 TO START THE THREE-PHASE EFFORT TO RESOLVE THE BEAGLE CHANNEL AND RELATED PROBLEMS -- AGREED UPON AT PUERTO MONTT FEBRUARY 20. THIS FIRST PHASE IS SUPPOSED TO ESTABLISH CONDITIONS OF HARMONY AND TRUST IN THE SOUTHERN REGION NECESSARY FOR SUBSTANTIVE PROGRESS LATER. REPORTEDLY BOTH SIDES PROPOSED TOPICS FOR DISCUSSION AT SUBSEQUENT PHASE-ONE MEETINGS (SOME 12 IN ALL), AND AGREED TO RESUME THEIR WORK IN BUENOS AIRES MARCH 13-19. THE HEADS OF THE TWO DELEGATIONS, GENERAL PABLO APELLA FOR THE GOA AND GENERAL JOAQUIN RAMIREZ FOR THE GOC, MADE APPROPRIATE POSITIVE STATEMENTS.

2. A GOC FONMIN OFFICIAL TOLD EMBOFF MARCH 3 THAT HE IS NOT OPTIMISTIC THAT BEAGLE CHANNEL NEGOTIATIONS WILL SUCCEED. ACCORDING TO HIM, AS MATTERS NOW STAND, THE
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GOA IS INSISTING ON CHILEAN ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF GOA SOVEREIGNTY OVER ONE OR MORE OF THE ISLANDS SOUTH OF THE PNL GROUP (I.E. EVOUT, BARNEVELT, DECEIT, WOLLASTON, AND/OR HORNOS) WHILE THE GOC IS NOT WILLING TO CONSIDER MORE THAN MARITIME BOUNDARIES. THE OFFICIAL DOES NOT RULE OUT AN EVENTUAL MILITARY INCIDENT, BUT NOTED THAT APPROACHING WINTER IN THE SOUTH AND PREOCCUPATION OF THE

ARGENTINE NATION WITH THE WORLD CUP REDUCES THAT RISK
FOR THE TIME BEING.
BOYATT

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
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Concepts: AGREEMENTS, NEGOTIATIONS, BEAGLE CHANNEL
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Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
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